

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended)      A Ddevice for confinement of plasma (5) in a chamber (1)-comprising creation means of for creating a magnetic field, the-said creation means comprising a series of permanent magnets (3)-capable of creating a magnetic field presenting an alternating multipole magnetic structure to the plasma, characterised in thatwherein the magnets (3)-are capable of confining the plasma in a large volume, the magnets being discontinuously distributed around the volume, and in thatwherein the magnets (3)-are arranged inside the chamber, at a distance from the-walls of the chamber held in place by support rods-(4), the support rods (4)-extending along the axis of magnetisation of the-said magnets and being arranged so that they-the support rods are centred on the-poles of the permanent magnets, such that the walls are outside an effective influence area of the magnets.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the support rods (4)-extend perpendicular to the walls of the chamber.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to either claim 1 or 2, characterised in thatwherein the series of permanent magnets (3)-is in a discontinuous checkerboard type structure.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to one of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the series of permanent magnets (3)-is in a discontinuous structure with interrupted line.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended)      The Deviee device according to one of claims 1 to [4]claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the permanent magnets (3)-have a symmetry of revolution.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to one of claims 1 to 5 claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the permanent magnets are cylindrical.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to one of claims 1 to 6claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the cross-section of the rods is small compared with the dimensions of the permanent magnets.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to one of claims 1 to 6claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the support rods (4) are tubes, the permanent magnets being located inside the tubes (4) in the end extending into the chamber (1), each magnet comprising a plate or a disk (18) made of a material with high magnetic permeability on its face furthest back from the inside of the chamber (1).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to claim 8, characterised in thatwherein the material is soft iron.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to one of claims 1 to 9claim 1, characterised in that it comprises comprising cooling means of for cooling the permanent magnets (3).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to claim 10, characterised in thatwherein the cooling means comprise a supply-return circulation circuit for a fluid around each magnet, this circuit comprising a duct passing through the centre of the magnet.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to one of claims 1 to 11claim 1, characterised in thatwherein the permanent magnets are contained in an external protective enclosure (16) that contains a non-magnetic conducting or dielectric material.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to one of claims 1 to 12claim 1, characterised in that it comprises comprising means a plasma production source of producing plasma that are is independent of the confinement means.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended)      The Device according to claim 13, characterised in thatwherein the plasma production source is a structure with thermo-emissive filament

excitation.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to claim 13, characterised in thatwherein the plasma production source is a structure excited by application of an electric voltage with a given frequency and shape, to the gas, for a required application.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to claim 13, characterised in thatwherein plasma production means contain means capable of applying a microwave electric field to the gas.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1, characterised in that it comprises comprising plasma production means that use at least a part of the confinement means.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to claim 17, characterised in thatwherein the plasma production means are capable of applying an electric voltage with a determined frequency and shape to the confinement structure, for a required application.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended)      The Ddevice according to claim 17, characterised in thatwherein the production means include means capable of applying an electric microwave field to the gas.